

Message Text

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46

ACTION EA-06

INFO OCT-01 SS-14 ISO-00 NSC-05 NSCE-00 SSO-00 VO-01 SCA-01

INR-05 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-03 SP-02 L-01 /039 W

----- 082490

R 030805Z APR 75

FM AMEMBASSY PHNOM PENH

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 0141

C O N F I D E N T I A L PHNOM PENH 5938

LIMDIS

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, CB, US

SUBJ: COL TAN SUOR, KHMER ASSISTANT MILITARY ATTACHE DESIGNATE

REF: PHNOM PENH 5901

1. A GKR FOREIGN MINISTRY NOTE ASKS THAT THE EMBASSY ISSUE A VISA TO COL. TAN SUOR, HIS FAMILY AND A MAID. THE NOTE STATES THAT THE COLONEL IS ASSISTANT MILITARY ATTACHE AT THE KHMER EMBASSY IN WASHINGTON.

2. DEPARTMENT WILL RECALL THAT WE STONEWALLED A SIMILAR AUGUST, 1974 REQUEST ON THE GROUNDS THAT THE GKR NEEDED ITS FOREIGN EXCHANGE MORE THAN IT NEEDED ANOTHER ATTACHE IN WASHINGTON. THE LOGIC IS EVEN MORE COMPELLING THIS YEAR. TAN SUOR, OF COURSE, IS A CLOSE ASSOCIATE OF LON NON, WHO WE SUSPECT HAS USED HIS INFLUENCE TO PERMIT TAN SUOR TO LEAVE THE COUNTRY WITH THE PROSPECTS OF A WELL-PAYING JOB, PERHAPS TO AWAIT THE PRESUMED ULTIMATE ARRIVAL OF HIS MENTOR (MME. LON NON IS A MEMBER OF LON NOL'S PARTY.)

3. TAN SUOR IS LIKELY TO FIGURE ON THE KC RETRIBUTION LIST, AND WE DO NOT BELIEVE WE CAN REFUSE HIM A VISA ALTOGETHER. AS AN ALTERNATIVE TO RECOGNIZING HIS MILITARY ATTACHE STATUS, WE PROPOSE TO ISSUE A A-2 VISA TO HIM AS A FOREIGN GOVERNMENT OFFICIAL ON MISSION TO THE UNITED
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STATES. THE DEPARTMENT CAN HANDLE THE SUBSEQUENT GKR

EMBASSY REQUEST FOR TAN SUOR'S DIPLOMATIC ACCREDITATION.

4. WE WILL ISSUE THE A-2 VISA UNLESS WE RECEIVE CONTRARY
INSTRUCTION BY COB APRIL 4.
DEAN

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NNN

Message Attributes

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Draft Date: 03 APR 1975
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Decaption Note: 25 YEAR REVIEW
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Disposition Case Number: n/a
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Disposition History: n/a
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